

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Use of SPRING software combined with ground truthing to map upland and emergent wetland vegetation on high priority Waterfowl Production Areas outlined in the WMD CCP prioritization model.

OBJECTIVES AND ALTERNATIVES

Complete final vegetative maps of uplands and emergent wetlands to NVCS standards on the 46 WPA's with large components (over 10,000 acres) of native prairie.

METHODS AND PROTOCOLS

Use of SPRING software to produce base vegetative maps of priority tracts. These base maps were then ground truthed utilizing Trimble GEO XT units using NVCS standards.

DATA ANALYSIS / MODELS

Report data analysis methods, conceptual and/or predictive models, decision support tools that were developed and used in the project.

DATA MANAGEMENT

We are using Arc-GIS as our primary tool for this project.

PARTNERS

Over 8 people have been involved in the project, representing two agencies/organizations and one Landscape Conservation Cooperatives.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Sand Lake NWR Complex supported this project by supplying vehicles, UTV's fuel, computers and additional staff support.

CURRENT STATUS

Currently, 30 of our high priority WPA's have been mapped. This totals 13,780 acres.

CHALLENGES

Based on guidance by the RD, we redirected permanent staff to work on the evaluation of tracts for wetland and grassland easements. This redirection took precedence over other tasks and as a result our number of mapped acres was less than we hoped to complete.

Our combination of seasonal and SCA staff produced good results on the mapping effort, but our progress was slower than we anticipated.

MORE INFORMATION

More information can be obtained by contacting Harris Hoistad or Eric Hoggarth at 605-885-6320

LITERATURE CITATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE PROJECT UPDATE TEMPLATE

1. The purpose of the Project Update template is to:
 - a. Provide a short summary of a project (research, inventory, monitoring, or adaptive management, mapping, etc.), suitable for progress reports, a brief overview of the project, its current status, and whom to contact for more information. For example, the Project Update can be used a handout at a presentation or briefing about the project or at a conference poster session.
 - b. Serve as a brief annual report about the project. A third page with more information can be added when the Update is used as an annual report, but this limits its usefulness as a handout.
2. If some of the sections don't apply to your project, delete them and add other, more appropriate sections. Graphics can be added to enhance the appearance and readability of the document.
3. Convert the Word file to a *.pdf before distributing to reduce file size and prevent unauthorized edits.
4. All active projects should strive to produce a Project Update annually. Suggested recipients of an annual Project Update:
 - a. Team members and project cooperators.
 - b. Managers or supervisors of cooperators associated with the project.
 - c. Refuge supervisor
 - d. Regional refuge biologist
 - e. Regional inventory and monitoring coordinator (if project involves inventories or monitoring).
 - f. Other regional staff with an interest in the project.